## WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING BY SENATOR A. BRECKON ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 14th MAY 2013

## Question

Further to the content of the Report on the Social Housing Property Plan 2007-2016 produced in June 2007 by the Health, Social Security and Housing Panel which showed that each States tenanted household paid by way of rents £4,531 per annum to the Treasury and funded directly not only the public sector but also the private sector rent rebates, can the Minister state how much rent per household was paid to the Treasury in 2012?

## **Answer**

In 2012, the Housing Department returned £24,375k to the Consolidated Fund which equates to an average of £5,370 per household per annum.

The Review of the Social Housing Property Plan was carried out in 2007 as a response to P6/2007. The report carried out an examination of the Housing Department's finances dating back some twenty years and stated that the burden of rental subsidy was evident and that the biggest growth overall was in the private sector and housing trust tenants, and that rent abatement for the Housing tenants has remained fairly constant over a period of 14 years.

I have been working hard with the Minister for Treasury & Resources to come up with funding solutions that will address the backlog in maintenance for States properties and bring all social housing up to the Decent Homes Standard with 10 years. In addition, my proposals will create a social housing sector that is capable of meeting the demand for homes in future in a viable and sustainable manner, without the need to reduce the budgets of other departments or indeed raise taxation.

The Housing Transformation Programme will deliver the return to the Consolidated Fund agreed in the Medium Term Financial Plan until 2015, and thereafter, the return will be maintained in real terms.

It is worth noting that P6/2007 has been a success since its approval by the States, and a total of 119 deferred payment sales have been made to tenants. £34m has been generated from these deferred payment sales, £27m in cash and £7m in retained bonds. During the same period 131 new homes have been created and paid for from the income from sales.